YUKON

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2007 – 2008

Table of Contents

Message from the Chair.....

Council Activities.....

Presentations.....

Meetings.....

Financial Statement.....

Membership.....

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The Mission Statement of the Council, as adopted in August, 1992 is:

"TO RECOMMEND AND PROMOTE ACTION THAT IMPROVES THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF YUKON PEOPLE"

"The Yukon Health and Social Services Council…will be a catalyst in promoting cooperation and building a broad public consensus aimed at achieving marked improvement in the quality of life in the Yukon."

This annual report outlines activities undertaken by Council in 2007-2008 in its efforts to meet its legislated mandate in working collaboratively with interest groups, agencies, government and the public at large to improve the health of our population.

The Council fosters cooperation and coordination in decision-making between the Departments of Health, Justice and Education. The assistance and dedication of all the members of this Council is appreciated. Thank you to all of you.

Sincerely,

Kevin McDonnell
Current Chair

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Minutes from Council meetings are public documents and as such are posted on the Government of Yukon website. They can be accessed through the Health and Social Services link, within this site.

HEALTH INVESTMENT FUND

Council continued to have a representative on the Health Investment Fund Committee that reviews requests for funds, during 2007-2008. The Council representative attended all regular meetings and kept the Council updated.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Council continued to have a representative on the Professional Development Fund Committee that reviews requests for funds for non-YTG employees, during 2007-2008. The Council representative attended all regular meetings and kept the Council updated.

COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

At the request of the Minister of Health and Social Services, sub-committees were established to examine:

- Public Health & Active Living
- Continuum of Services to Seniors

Council will review and provide comments in the coming months.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE COUNCIL

The following topics were brought forward and discussed by the Minister of Health & Social Services and the Director of Policy and Program Development, Yukon Health and Social Services:

- Health and Human Resources Strategy
- Health Professions Act
- Child Care Funding
- Alcohol and Drug Programs
- Social Assistance Update
- Drinking Water Regulations
- Public Health
- Social Assistance Rates
- Emergency Medical Services
- Orientation to the Department of Health & Social Services

The following updates were provided by officials from the Departments of Justice & Education:

- Policing Review Volunteers in School Policy
- Safer Community and Neighborhood Act (SCAN Act):
- Whitehorse Correctional Center: Correction Action Plan
- Orientation to the Department of Education
- Orientation to the Department of Justice

PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL

SERVICES TO SENIORS

Louise Hardy, Senior & Adult Protection Social Worker, Yukon Health and Social Services, provided an update regarding the process of how casework is handled under the Adult Protection Act.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Lillian Nakamura-Maguire, Public Education Specialist, presented on human rights in the Yukon and distributed copies of *Human Rights Act*, brochures on *Promoting &*

Protecting Human Rights, *The Complaints Process*, *Black History of the Yukon* and *Asian History of the Yukon* for information purposes.

ADDICTIONS/STREET LIFE

David Ravensdale facilitated a discussion and information exchange session on street life, addictions, drug culture in society that cross all socio-economic boundaries and how complex and interrelated these issues have come to be. This illustrated that the approach to address these issues is not simple.

CARCROSS/TAGISH FIRST NATION FAMILY ACT

A joint presentation by Beverly Sembsmoen and David Ravensdale of Carcross Tagish First Nation updated the Council on the development of the First Nations' *Family Act*. The *Family Act* is based on the *Cube Concept* and took five years to develop with the help of past Yukon Judge, Mr. Barry Stuart. This law is based on family values and addresses spiritual, emotional, physical and mental health of each member of the family – child, youth, adult and elders. The First Nation has engaged an evaluator from British Columbia who is working with them to set up evaluation process and a Protocol Agreement between Yukon Government and the Carcross Tagish First Nation.

CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Brian Eaton, an executive for the Canadian Mental Health Association, presented on the mandate of Canadian Mental Health Association and the role it plays within the Yukon Community. The mandate is to promote mental health through conducting advocacy and research. The Canadian Mental Health Association also prepares policy papers which are accessible through its' web-site.

LONG TERM CARE FACILITY-BASED SERVICES

Cathy Morton-Bielz, Assistant Deputy Minister, Continuing Care, Yukon Health and Social Services, along with staff provided an overview of the services provided by the Continuing Care Branch – Home Care, Long Term Care Facilities and Community Care/Outreach.

DRUG PROGRAMS & EXTENDED HEALTH BENEFITS

Pat Duncan and Diane Tait from Yukon Insured Health Services presented on the registration and claims process for Health Care and on the registration process and operations of the **Extended Benefits & Pharmaceutical Programs**.

YUKON HOUSING CORPORATION : SERVICES TO SENIORS

Yukon Housing Corporation, Vice President, Dale Kozmen, and Operations Director, Allyn Lyon, presented on the changing face of housing needs for seniors in the Yukon .

YUKON COUNCIL ON AGING

Yukon Council on Aging second vice-president Heather Thomson and office manager Debbie Jansen both of provided an orientation and overview of the Yukon Council On Aging.

HOSPICE YUKON

Cathy Routlege, Executive Director, Hospice Yukon, provided an orientation and overview of her organization .

SENIORS' SERVICES, ADULT PROTECTION & PIONEER UTILITY GRANT :

Mike McCann, Director of Social Services, Yukon Health and Social Services, with Kelly Cooper, Manager, Seniors' Services/Adult Protection Yukon Health and Social Services, provided an orientation overview of services provided to seniors via Social Services.

COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS 2007-2008

The Council did not forward any recommendations to the Commissioner in Executive Council during 2007/2008:

MEETINGS

Under the Operating Procedures, the Yukon Health and Social Services Council is committed to holding at least four meetings a year.

In 2007-2008, three regular meetings took place on the following dates:

January 18 & 19, 2007
June 1 & 2, 2007
October 12 & 13, 2007

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2007-08
AS TO MARCH 31, 2008

YUKON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COUNCIL

BUDGET:		**$40,000**
Honoraria	$12,875.53	
Travel Costs	$ 1721.04	
Meeting Expenses	$3,662.55	
Advertisement/Community Awareness	$1,870.04	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		**$20,129.16**

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP AS OF MARCH 31, 2008

- Allen Lueck – Chair
- Alexia McKinnon – Co-chair
- Marie Cox
- Cindy Gosselin
- Penny Ferbey
- Darcy Tkachuk
- Maxwell Rispin
- James Allen
- Graham Lang
- Jane McIntyre
- David Ravensdale
- Naresh Prasad

CONTACT INFORMATION

For information on the Yukon Health and Social Services Council, please contact:

Yukon Health and Social Services Council
Attention: Yvonne Clarke, Secretariat
Box 2703 (H-1)
Whitehorse, Y.T. Y1A 2C6

Phone: (867) 667-5945 or Toll free: 1-800-661-0408 ext. 5945

Fax: (867) 456-6545